Vol. VI. Numb. 50

THE OBSERVATOR.

of the Exportation of Wheat: It ought to be incourag'd, for the Advantage of the Farmer, the Landlord, and the Kingdom in general. Of victualling our Fleet in foreign Parts. Of the foreign News. Of his Excellency the Earl of Peterborough's *Arrival. Of the Affair of* Thoulon.

From **Wednesday**, Auguſt 20. to **Saturday**, Auguſt 23. 1707.

untry-m. MAſter, what ſhall us Diſcourſe of at preſent?

Obſ. Any thing, *Roger*, to paſs away the ime.

Country-m. The Mails are arriv'd, but they ill not come to your Hands yet; ſo, if you leaſe, let us talk a little about the Farmers uſineſs; let us conſider ſometimes for our lves, and that will tend to the Publick Good ſo.

Obſ. Propoſe what you would have me ſpeak on that Subject.

Country-m. My Corn-Factor tells me, that undance of Corn, Wheat eſpecially, is anſported to foreign Parts; he tells me, laſt eek at *London* above a thouſand Quarters of heat was enter'd outwards for *Portugal*; and at the Merchants have vaſt Commiſſions buying up Wheat both at *London* and other orts in the Country.

Obſ. Well, *Roger*, and what is thy Opinion it? Is it for the Good of the Farmer?

Country-m. It muſt needs be for our Good: ithout it, we ſhould not be able to pay the andlord. There is ſuch a vaſt Stock of Corn *Britain*, that had we no other Conſumption, ut among our ſelves, we might venture to let ur Ground lie Fallow for two or three Years, nd yet have Plenty of Corn for the Inhabiants. Now, what does it ſignify to have a aſt Stock of any ſort of Commodity in a ingdom, and not have a Conſumption for ? Our Manufactures, what Advantage are ey to the Kingdom, if the Conſumption be ot anſwerable to the Manufacture?

Obſ. Roger, thou ar't in the Right on't; 'tis e Conſumption of the Commodity muſt be inded. And the Tranſportation of Corn n never hurt *Britain* in a Time of ſo great lenty: But we muſt take Care that the Exortation of Corn and Proviſions do not create Scarcity at Home: We muſt not ſtarve our wn People, to feed Foreigners.

But if Care were taken, and Encouragement ven to the Farmer, we need not fear Plenty Home, and ſufficient Quantities for Expor-tion. The Farmer ought to be encourag'd, Till the Land by Ways found out to make s Corn a vendible Commodity. The Huſand-man has one Advantage now, which he d not formerly; we have had of late, many vers made navigable; ſo that for a ſmall Exnce, he may have his Corn convey'd to the a-Ports: The Charge of Land Carriage, has en a great Impediment to the Farmer.

And methinks the Landlords in the Houſe of Commons, ſhould diligently mind this great Concern, which is not beneficial to the Tenant only, but to themſelves; for by this Means, the Tenant will be better enabl'd to pay his Rent, and it will certainly raiſe the Price of Land; which, conſidering the Fertility of the Soil, and the advantageous Scituation of *Britain*, is at too low a Rate.

Methinks it ſhould be an eaſy Thing to convince the Landlord, that what is for the Advantage of the Occupier, is good for him alſo; and 'tis ſtrange, ſo many lauded Men in the Houſe of Commons, ſhould be ſo blind to their own Intereſt, as not to have encourag'd Huſbandry, and the Woollen-Manufacture! The Improvement of which, would be a certain Increaſe of their Eſtates; for their Eſtates do ſhrink and increaſe, as the Trade of the Kingdom does ebb and flow.

If we did but incourage Huſbandry and Trade, and particularly the Woollen-Manufacture, *Britain* would in Time become the Granary, and our Ships the Carriers of *Europe*.

Country-m. Maſter, I am for Exportation of Corn; it is a great Help to the poor Farmer in this extraordinary Plenty; but I would fain find out ſome Way to incourage the Exportation; I fancy the Government might do it.

Obſ. The Government does it by all Ways feaſible.

Country-m. If we take *Thoulon*, and our Fleet winters Abroad; from whence will they be victuall'd?

Obſ. With Beef, Pork, and Peaſe, from *England*, but with Bread from the neighbouring Countries. There is good Corn in thoſe Parts, but what Quantities, and at what Price, I know not. The Fleet may be ſupply'd with Bread there, and our Forces at *Gibraltar*, with Corn and Proviſions from the Coaſt of *Barbary*, near at Hand.

But, *Roger*, I put a Query, whether this be the beſt Way of providing for our Men Abroad? I know ſome People will laugh, and ſay, the *Obſervator* and his *Country-man* are a couple of Fools: Let 'em ſay ſo, *Roger*; if we are Fools, we'll endeavour to be uſeful Fools, and that's better than being miſchievous Knaves: They'll ſay, What, would this Man have us ſend our Proviſions from *England*, when we can buy 'em cheaper on the Spot where our Men are? Yes, I ſay, by all Means I would have it ſo. Suppoſe we have 30000 Men Abroad, the Conſumption that ſo many Men would make, will be wanting to the Kingdom;

Kingdom; and that's no ſmall Matter. Suppoſe it coſts us more to ſend 'em Proviſions, does not the whole Nation pay the Charge, which is but a Trifle to a ſingle Perſon? And does not the whole Nation reap the Benefit of it? The Nation muſt loſe in one Reſpect, and ſo muſt the Queen too, by having ſo many of our Men Abroad: It ſeems we don't know how to brew Beer to hold in the *Streights*, and our Men muſt be fed with Beverage, which ſpoils ſo much of the Farmer's Profit in Barley, and leſſens the Queen's Duty on Mault and Beer.

Roger, ere long, I ſhall diſcourſe of Trade, of the Woollen-Manufacture, and of the Fiſhery, *&c.* and then I ſhall ſhow you plainly, that 'tis the Intereſt of the Government to maintain and ſupport it.

Country-m. Maſter, the News Papers are juſt come by the Poſt: Here, *Joan*, bring the Packet into the Parlour.

Obſ. Prethee, *Roger*, look 'em over, and tell me what is remarkable in them.

Country-m. The firſt Thing I caſt mine Eye upon, is good News.

Obſ. What's that, *Roger*?

Country-m. Our brave General, the Earl of *Peterborough*, is ſafely arriv'd.

Obſ. That is good News, indeed: I heartily congratulate his happy Return to his native Country, after he has purchas'd ſo much Honour for himſelf, and ſo highly rais'd the Glory of the *Britiſh* Arms in ſo many Countries and Kingdoms.

Country-m. Maſter, pray grant my Requeſt; write a few Lines, a few Verſes, on this joyful Occaſion.

Obſ. *Roger*, why will you banter your ſick Friend? Thou know'ſt I am diſinſpired, my Harp has hung above two Years on the Willows, and the Muſes have deny'd me ſo much as a Cottage within the Confines of *Parnaſſus*. Our great Predeceſſor *Ovid* (who knew as well the Strein of Poetry, as any that ever liv'd) tells us, *Carmina Proveniunt Animo deducta Sereno*, Verſes proceed only from a quiet Mind: Any Trouble or Vexation of Mind, renders a Perſon unfit for the Converſation of the Muſes.

Beſides, *Roger*, who durſt pretend to write a Poem on ſo ſublime a Subject? Who will pretend to deſcribe and paint, in Poetry, the Actions of this Great Peer, who has run ſo many Stages of Honour, in little more than two Years Time? This Great Man, in that Time, has ſeen more, than ſome employ'd in publick Buſineſs have done in their Lives: And all this improv'd by ſo conſummate and ſolid a Judgment, muſt needs make a finiſh'd States-man.

And now his Lordſhip is return'd loaden with Lawrels, and even ſinking beneath the Weight of real Merit, and true Honour; how will the baſe Detractors from his Fame behave themſelves? What can the under-ſpur-Leathers, that induſtriouſly blaſted his Reputation in the City, when he was ſo far diſtant from his native Country, and not capable of defending himſelf, ſay in their own Vindication? Was not Impudence their Protection, they would fall on their Knees and beg his Lordſhip's Pardon.

But inſtead of that, I dare engage, many of his Backbiters, that not long ſince ſought his Lordſhip's Ruin, will now careſs him on his Arrival, and court his Lordſhip's Favour. ——— What News from *Thoulon*?

Country-m. Maſter, the Town is not taken yet, as ſome People would have it.

Obſ. Our People at *London* are too haſty for Warriors; they fancy that *Thoulon* is ſuch another Place as *Iſlington*, barraeaded only with Plum-Cakes, and that the Fortifications are like thoſe of *Jack-Straw*'s Caſtle, to be leap'd over by Frogs: Our City-Warriors, the Warrers, will take the ſtrongeſt Town in *Europe*, over a Pipe and a Quart.

Country-m. Maſter, I am afraid 'twill be a hard Matter: They ſay, there are I can't tell how many hundred great Cannon Guns mounted on the Walls; I can't endure thoſe loud-Mouth'd, roaring Things.

Obſ. *Roger*, the Duke of *Savoy* has got a Parcel of Fellows about him, that will take a Cannon by the Beard and ſtop its Mouth. I don't ſee that vaſt Quantity of Cannon mounted on the Walls, will do them any ſervice, but rather a Prejudice; ſuch a vaſt Weight lying on the Walls, and the great Shocks muſt be given when thoſe Cannon are fir'd; when at the ſame time, they muſt receive the Shock of the Enemies Batteries, methinks ſhould be an effectual Means to make the Walls tumble.

Country-m. But, Maſter, here are a Power of Men detach'd from the *French* Armies, againſt Prince *Eugene* and the Duke.

Obſ. Some of 'em will come a Day after the Fair, and the reſt to little Purpoſe. The *French* King, for the End, has dreign'd both the *Languedocs*, and left the Country expos'd to the *Malecontents*, and the People of the *Cevennes*; ſo that now Colonel *Cavalier*, who is amongſt them, will have Liberty to make a noble Inſurrection; ſuch a one, as for ought I know, may find work for the *French* King's Detachments, and for more Men than he can ſpare. But we will diſcourſe farther of this Subject the next Time we meet.

Advertiſements.

*** Whereas ſeveral Perſons have pirated the *Quaker's Union-Sermon*, in a barbarous Manner, leaving out above a third Part of the Book, and printing their Cheat in a blind Letter, full of Errors and Faults: This is to inform thoſe that have bought the ſham Paper, that they are cheated themſelves, and that by buying ſuch Papers they incourage a Sort of Villains, that are worſe than Highway-men, Thieves, and Pick-pockets; and that the true Sermon is ſold by *B. Bragge*, in *Pater-Noſter-Row*.

*** A Phyſician of Eminence, and great Practice in Venereal Diſeaſes, in Compaſſion to ſuch who are diſtemper'd, and either through Ignorance or Indigence neglect timely Care, or fall into unſkilful Hands for Cure, has thought fit to offer ſome gentle purging Pills to be purchas'd at a ſmall Price, which alone (without Hinderance of Buſineſs, or other Inconveniency, and uſually in 10 or 12 Days time) ſafely and compleatly cures any Gonorrhœa, or Running of the Reins, with Heat and Sharpneſs of Urin, and alſo ſuch as are ill cur'd, the clear of any Relicts of the ſaid Diſeaſe. To be had at the *Water-man's-Arms* behind *Old Round-Court*, in the *Strand*, at 3 *s.* a Box, containing ſix Doſes, ſeal'd up with printed Directions for their Uſe, and will be deliver'd to any Meſſenger.

Theſe are to give Notice,

*** That *Mary Kirleus*, Widow of *John Kirleus*, Son of Dr. *Thomas Kirleus*, a Collegiate Phyſician of *London* and Sworn Phyſician in Ordinary to King *Charles* II. is the only Perſon that ſells (exactly perpar'd) his Famous Drink and Pill, which is eminently experienc'd to cure all Ulcers, Sores, Scabs, Itch, Scurfs, Scurvies, Leproſie, Venereal and *French* Diſeaſe, Running of the Reins, and all ſuch Malignities, tho' never ſo inveterate, in all Conſtitutions, at all Seaſons of the Year, hindering no buſineſs without Fluxing or the Uſe of *Mercury*, which is generally deſtructive. Theſe Medicines are truly and faithfully prepar'd, as directed by her Huſband, and as made and deliver'd to his patients by her in his Life-time, (they being the only perſons then that ſold it, and to whom the ſecret was ever imparted.) Therefore beware of ſeveral late ignorant Pretenders, for ſhe is the only perſon that knows the Doctor's Methods of curing, which ſhe practiſes with great ſucceſs, as has been ſeveral Times mention'd in the *Gazette*. She cures many after Fluxing, compaſſionates the Diſtreſs'd, and deals with all perſons according to their Abilities. The Drink is 3 *s.* the Quart, the Pills 1 *s.* the Box, with Directions; ſhe gives Advice *gratis*. ☞ She is remov'd from the *Glaſs Lanthorn* in *Plough-Yard*, to the *Golden Ball* in *Hand-Court*, over againſt *Great Turn-Stile*, in *Holborn*.

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